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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Hironori FUJIOKA, et al.

: EXAMINER:

Kastner

SERIAL NO: 09/912498

:

FILED: Herewith - 7.26.01

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1742

FOR: METHOD OF PRODUCING REDUCED IRON
AND PRODUCTION FACILITIES THEREFOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-8 and 14-22 without prejudice as follows.

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--1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)